

IN THE CLAIMS

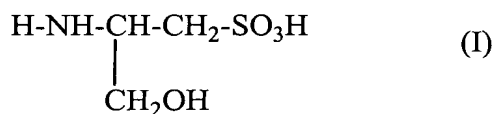
Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-16 (Cancelled).

Claim 17 (New): A method of treating or preventing obesity in a subject, comprising administering to the subject an anti-obesity agent comprising:

D-cysteinolic acid represented by Formula I, as an active ingredient:

Formula I:



Claim 18 (New): The method according to Claim 17, wherein the anti-obesity agent is administered in the form of a pharmaceutical composition.

Claim 19 (New): The method according to Claim 17, wherein the anti-obesity agent is administered in the form of a cosmetic composition.

Claim 20 (New): The method according to Claim 17, wherein the anti-obesity agent is administered in the form of a food composition.

Claim 21 (New): A method of treating or preventing obesity in a subject, comprising administering to the subject an anti-obesity agent comprising a material selected from the group consisting of sea lettuce and an extract from sea lettuce as an active ingredient.

Claim 22 (New): The method according to Claim 21, wherein the anti-obesity agent is administered in the form of a pharmaceutical composition.

Claim 23 (New): The method according to Claim 21, wherein the anti-obesity agent is administered in the form of a cosmetic composition.

Claim 24 (New): The method according to Claim 21, wherein the anti-obesity agent is administered in the form of a food composition.

Claim 25 (New): A method of treating or preventing obesity in a subject, comprising administering to the subject an anti-obesity agent comprising an extract from sea lettuce with hot water, as an active ingredient.

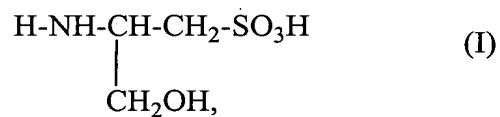
Claim 26 (New): The method according to Claim 25, wherein the anti-obesity agent is administered in the form of a pharmaceutical composition.

Claim 27 (New): The method according to Claim 25, wherein the anti-obesity agent is administered in the form of a cosmetic composition.

Claim 28 (New): The method according to Claim 25, wherein the anti-obesity agent is administered in the form of a food composition.

Claim 29 (New): The method according to Claim 25, wherein the extract is obtained with hot water at a temperature of 50-70°C.

Claim 30 (New): A method of treating or preventing obesity in a subject, comprising administering to the subject an anti-obesity agent comprising at least one material selected from the group consisting of D-cysteinolic acid, represented by Formula I;



sea lettuce, and an extract from sea lettuce, as an active ingredient.

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

The specification has been amended by inserting parent application identifying subject matter.

All the claims have been cancelled and replaced with new method Claims 17-30. Claims 17-28 correspond to original Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9-12, 14 and 15, respectively. Claim 29 is supported in Japanese Patent Application No. 11-222470, referred to throughout the specification, such as at page 5, lines 18-19 and the sentence bridging pages 5 and 6, wherein it is described that the sea lettuce strain reported in said Japanese patent application publication "should be used in accordance with an aspect of the present invention." Finally, Claim 30 is based on a combination of the subject matter of original Claims 1 and 6.

No new matter is believed to have been added by the above amendment. Claims 17-30 are now pending in the application.